

Message Text

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ACTION NASA-02

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 TRSE-00 SS-15 ACDA-05 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-03 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OES-03 /049 W

----- 109046

R 111330Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7143

C O N F I D E N T I A L TANANARIVE 0672

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: TSPA

SUBJECT: NASA NEGOTIATIONS

REF: STATE 82030

1. EMBASSY NOT PREPARING FURTHER INITIATIVES ON NASA NEGOTIATIONS AT THIS MOMENT.

2. DEPT AND NASA SHOULD BE AWARE THAT, PRIOR RECEIPT REFTEL, I SENT LETTER IN FRENCH APRIL 2 TO ANDRIAMAHAZO TRYING DETERMINE WHETHER FONOFF NOTE OF MARCH 26 ON NASA (TANANARIVE 0541) WAS SENT WITH HIS KNOWLEDGE OR REPRESENTED INDEPENDENT FONOFF ACTION. MAIN PURPOSE OF LETTER WAS TO TRANSMIT PRICE AND DELIVERY DATA ON MILITARY EQUIPMENT (STATE 71793) AS ANDRIAMAHAZO WAS TOO BUSY DURING MAJOR TRIAL TO RECEIVE ME PERSONALLY AND ASKED THAT DATA BE SENT TO HIM IN WRITING.

3. I TOOK ADVANTAGE OF LETTER ON MILITARY EQUIPMENT TO RAISE FONOFF NASA NOTE, STATING I WAS BIT PUZZLED BY IT SINCE HE AND I HAD DISCUSSED SUBSTANCE OF RENTAL ISSUE ON MARCH 14 AND HE HAD ASKED ME AVOID SENDING NOTES THROUGH FOREIGN OFFICE WHICH MIGHT GIVE HIM TROUBLE IN MILITARY DIRECTORY. I SAID THAT EMBASSY THEREFORE DOES NOT KNOW WHETHER TO RESPOND TO NOTE OR NOT. IF EMBASSY IS EXPECTED TO RESPOND, I STATED THAT TENOR WOULD BE ALONG LINES I HAD PERSONALLY EXPLAINED TO HIM ON MARCH 14.

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4. I CLOSED BY ASKING HIM TO LET ME KNOW WHETHER HE WANTED

NOTE ANSWERED BY EMBASSY OR LEFT IN SUSPENSE. I HAVE HAD NO WORD FROM HIM SINCE THEN.

5. SINCE ANDRIAMAHAZO REASSURED ME MARCH 14 THAT STATION WILL STAY AS LONG AS HE IS HEAD OF GOVERNMENT, I BELIEVE THAT, IN ALL LIKELIHOOD, OUR OBJECTIVE WILL BE BETTER SERVED BY TAKING OUR CUE ON TACTICS FROM HIM.

6. IT COULD WELL BECOME APPROPRIATE TO TRY NAIL DOWN AGREEMENT ON RENTAL ISSUE WITH ANDRIAMAHAZO AND PROCEED WITH NASA AGREEMENT NEGOTIATIONS AFTER CONCLUSION OF AID RAILROAD LOAN AND PL-480, TITLE I, AGREEMENTS.

7. REQUEST DEPT AUTHORIZE ME LATITUDE TO TEST THIS APPROACH WITH ANDRIAMAHAZO IF IT APPEARS APPROPRIATE TO ME AND OPPORTUNITY ARISES TO DO SO. DEPT SHOULD BEAR IN MIND THAT OPPORTUNITIES TO SEE ANDRIAMAHAZO ARE UNLIKELY TO BE FREQUENT IN VIEW OF HIS HEAVY SCHEDULE AS HEAD OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT, AND HAVE TO BE SEIZED AS THEY ARISE.
MENDENHALL

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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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